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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Hiraki et al.

Patent No.: 7,086,450

Grant Date: August 8, 2006

For: CONTINUOUS CASTING METHOD, CONTINUOUS CASTING APPARATUS
AND CONTINUOUSLY CAST STEEL SLAB

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(i)**

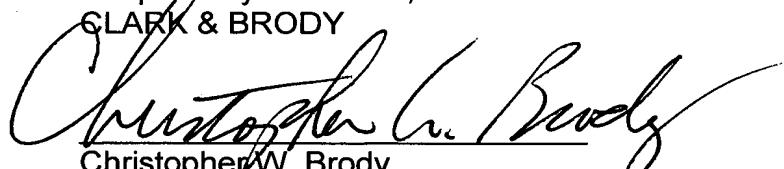
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(i), the attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference listed on the attached form SB/42 (PTO-1449). It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement and references be placed in the file.

Applicants submit that there is no fee required for this submission, however, please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1088.

Respectfully submitted,
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Docket No.: 12054-0011
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